

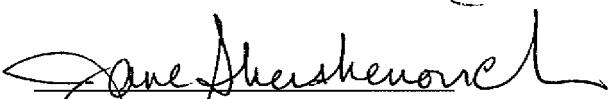
REMARKS

Applicants elect Group I which includes claims 5, 39-58, and is drawn to a method of producing xanthan polymer. Non-elected claims have been canceled without prejudice to their future prosecution in divisional applications. Claims which referenced cancelled claims have been amended to explicitly incorporate all elements of the referenced, cancelled claims.

It is believed that no new matter is added to this application and that no narrowing of the elected claims has occurred.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Jan. 12, 2007


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